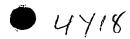


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Application of:

Sumiyo TANAKA

For:

IMAGE SEARCHING SYSTEM, IMAGE

SEARCHING METHOD, AND RECORDING

MEDIUM STORING AN IMAGE SEARCHING

PROGRAM

Confirmation No.:

8382

U.S. Serial No.:

09/255,352

Filed:

February 23, 1999

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Group Art Unit:

2177

MAY 2 9 2002

Examiner:

Mohammad Ali

Technology Center 2100

BOX AF

Assistant Director

for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box AF, Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

May 9, 2002

Date of Deposit

Douglas A. Sorensen

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

May 9, 2002

Date of Signature

RESPONSE

This Response is filed in response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2002 which provides for a response period ending May 12, 2002.